

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JAMES DARREN CRAWFORD,

Plaintiff,

v.

JEFFREY BEARD, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. [14-cv-05578-JD](#)

**ORDER ADOPTING REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATION, AND
DISMISSING CASE WITH PREJUDICE**

On December 22, 2014, plaintiff, a state prisoner, filed a pro se civil rights complaint under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, and consented to the jurisdiction of a magistrate judge. Docket No. 1. The case was assigned to a magistrate judge who on May 17, 2016, ordered service on several defendants from the second amended complaint but also dismissed several defendants who had not yet appeared in the case and consented to a magistrate judge. Docket No. 15. The served defendants consented to a magistrate judge (Docket No. 28) and the case was closed when defendants' motion to dismiss and motion for summary judgment was granted on September 29, 2017 (Docket No. 69).

On November 9, 2017, the Ninth Circuit held in *Williams v. King*, 875 F.3d 500, 503-04 (9th Cir. 2017) that all parties including unserved defendants must consent to proceed before a magistrate judge for jurisdiction to vest. *Id.* Plaintiff later appealed the dismissal and closing of his case. The Ninth Circuit vacated and remanded the case, finding that the magistrate judge dismissed claims against defendants Bell, Gongora, Hall, Love and Williams before those defendants had been served and consented. Docket No. 94. The Ninth Circuit vacated only the magistrate judge's May 17, 2016, order of service that dismissed the defendants who had not consented. Docket No. 94 at 2. The Ninth Circuit did not disturb the rulings on the motion to

1 dismiss or motion for summary judgment. *Id.* The case was then reassigned on a random basis to
2 this District Judge.

3 The matter was reopened, and the Court treated the magistrate judge's May 17, 2016, order
4 dismissing defendants Bell, Gongora, Hall, Love and Williams as a Report and Recommendation.
5 The parties were provided an opportunity to file written objections to the Report and
6 Recommendation, and both parties submitted filings.

7 The Court has reviewed the magistrate judge's report recommending that: defendant Hall
8 be dismissed due to plaintiff's speculative and conclusory allegations that Hall failed to properly
9 supervise his subordinates; defendants Williams, Love and Bell be dismissed due to plaintiff's
10 failure to plead specific facts demonstrating that the defendants conspired against him; and that
11 defendant Gongora be dismissed due to plaintiff's failure to specify what constitutional right
12 Gongora violated and how he violated that right. The report noted that plaintiff had been provided
13 an opportunity to cure these deficiencies, but failed to provide sufficient allegations in the second
14 amended complaint.

15 Plaintiff filed objections (Docket Nos. 101, 104) but did not address the findings in the
16 Report and Recommendation. Instead, plaintiff argued that the motion to dismiss and motion for
17 summary judgment should have also been vacated and that he should be provided an opportunity
18 to file a third amended complaint. Plaintiff was provided an opportunity in his objections to
19 present sufficient allegations regarding these defendants and claims, but in effect declined to do
20 so. There is no good reason to allow a third amended complaint. Plaintiff also stated that more
21 information about these defendants would have been obtained in discovery. But as the Supreme
22 Court determined in *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678-79 (2009), "[t]hreadbare recitals of the
23 elements of a cause of action, supported by mere conclusory statements, do not" meet the federal
24 pleading standard, which "does not unlock the doors of discovery for a plaintiff armed with
25 nothing more than conclusions."

26 Plaintiff's objections are overruled, and the Court adopts the report. For the reasons
27 articulated in the Report and Recommendation as well as in this order, defendants Bell, Gongora,
28 Hall, Love and Williams are **DISMISSED** with prejudice from this action. The dismissal is with

prejudice because plaintiff was already provided leave to amend and further amendment would be futile. The Clerk is requested to close this case.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: January 4, 2021



JAMES DONATO
United States District Judge

United States District Court
Northern District of California